

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An overhead airbag comprising:

a cushion portion, wherein the cushion portion comprises a front panel, a first side panel, and a second side panel;

a throat positioned above the cushion portion; and

at least one patch attached to the cushion portion, the patch constructed such that when the airbag is in the inflated configuration, the airbag retains a depression between the cushion portion and the throat, wherein the patch is attached to the throat and the first side panel.

Claim 2 (cancelled):

Claim 3 (currently amended): An overhead airbag as in claim 1 wherein the patch is attached to the cushion portion and the throat via sewing.

Claim 4 (currently amended): An overhead airbag as in claim 1 wherein the patch is attached to the cushion portion and the throat via adhesive bonding.

Claim 5 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 1 wherein the airbag is designed to receive the impact of a vehicle occupant during a crash.

Claim 6 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 1 wherein the depression is designed to receive the vehicle occupants' head during a crash.

Claim 7 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 1 wherein the airbag further comprises a mounting area.

Claim 8 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 7 wherein the mounting area is attached to the throat.

Claim 9 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 7 wherein the mounting area is in fluid communication with an inflator.

Claim 10 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 7 wherein the patch contacts the mounting area.

Claim 11 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 1 wherein the patch wraps around the throat.

Claims 12-13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (currently amended): An overhead airbag as in claim ~~12~~ 1 wherein the patch is integral with the first side panel.

Claim 15 (currently amended): An overhead airbag as in claim ~~12~~ 1 wherein a second patch is attached to the second side panel.

Claim 16 (currently amended): An overhead airbag comprising:
a cushion portion having a front panel and a first side panel;
a throat positioned above the cushion portion; and
at least one patch attached to the cushion portion, the patch constructed such that when the airbag is in the inflated configuration, the airbag retains a depression between the front panel and the throat wherein the patch is attached to the first side panel and the throat.

Claim 17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): An overhead airbag as in claim ~~17~~ 16 wherein the patch is attached to the cushion portion and the throat via sewing.

Claim 19 (currently amended): An overhead airbag as in claim ~~17~~ 16 wherein the patch is attached to the cushion portion and the throat via adhesive bonding.

Claim 20 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 16 wherein the airbag is designed to receive the impact of a vehicle occupant during a crash.

Claim 21 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 16 wherein the depression is designed to receive the vehicle occupants' head during a crash.

Claim 22 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 16 wherein the airbag further comprises a mounting area.

Claim 23 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 22 wherein the mounting area is attached to the throat.

Claim 24 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 22 wherein the mounting area is in fluid communication with an inflator.

Claim 25 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 22 wherein the patch contacts the mounting area.

Claim 26 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 22 wherein the patch wraps around the throat.

Claim 27 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 16 wherein the patch is integral with the first side panel.

Claim 28 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 16 wherein the cushion portion further comprises a second side panel.

Claim 29 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 28 wherein a second patch is attached to the second side panel.

Claim 30 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 28 wherein the patch is attached to the first side panel and the second side panel.

Claim 31 (currently amended) An overhead airbag comprising:

a cushion portion having a front panel and a first side panel;

a throat positioned above the cushion portion;

a mounting area is attached to the throat; and

at least one patch attached to the first side panel and the throat, the patch constructed such that when the airbag is in the inflated configuration, the airbag retains a depression between the front panel and the throat.

Claim 32 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 31 wherein the patch is integral with the first side panel.

Claim 33 (cancelled)

Claim 34 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 31 wherein the patch wraps around the throat.

Claim 35 (original): An overhead airbag in claim 31 wherein the patch contacts the mounting area.

Claim 36 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 31 wherein the patch is attached to the first side panel via sewing.

Claim 37 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 31 wherein the cushion portion further comprises a second side panel.

Claim 38 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 37 wherein a second patch is attached to the second side panel.

Claim 39 (original): An overhead airbag as in claim 37 wherein the patch is attached to the first side panel and the second side panel.